

Contributions.

THE PERFECT WORD.

BY W. F. ROE.

My dear little Willie—my boy of four—
Played with his blocks on the nursery floor;
In gaudy tints on the blocks was set,
In printed letters, the alphabet;
This way and that way, side by side,
Block and block he turned and tried,
Watching my Willie, his voice I heard:
"Come and see, mamma, I've made a word!"
Though busy at work, I never forget
To look when he asked, what mother would
not?

"Is that a word mamma? He always said;
I laughed and said "No;" and shook my
head.

At last worn out, too tired to creep,
On the nursery floor he fell asleep:
To lay him down in his crib, I went,
And saw he had made by accident
A word with the blocks set side by side—
A word, when he hadn't even tried.
He had made a litter, as oft before,
With the blocks all over the nursery floor;
But, like a mother, I could not bear
To spoil the word, so I left it there.
A thought came into my heart; Just so
We grown up ones to our duties go;
We ponder them o'er we toil and fret
Over our life like an alphabet;
Till, after awhile, too tired to weep
Over many failures, we fall asleep.
Only a litter through life we've made
And dreaming of doing, have only played;
Yet the wondrous power of love may change
And, unknown to us, may the deeds ar-
range.

O when we awake may the Voice be heard
Telling at last of the perfect word!

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

BY J. S. C. SPICKERMAN.

Crime seems to be on the increase.
Scarcely a week passes without a train
robbery or a bank robbery; murders,
suicides, rapes, etc., are of almost daily
occurrence. The criminal columns of
the average newspaper are sickening to
any one who has not acquired a taste
for such reading.

This nation was founded by Chris-
tians, Puritans, Friends and Catholics
from England, Brethren and Moravians
from Germany, and Huguenots from
France, came seeking a place where
they could worship God unmolested.
The Bible was the corner stone of our
civilization. Why, then, has our coun-
try, which had such a glorious begin-
ning, become the scene of so much
crime? The cause, I think, can be
clearly seen, in the ways in which we,
as a people, have forsaken God's laws.

(1) Disregard of the Lord's Day.
God set apart one day in seven for rest,

worship, and the cultivation of man's
higher nature. But the day has been
desecrated by Sunday games, races, and
theatres, Sunday newspapers—the
most worldly and sensational issue of
the week—Sunday trains and open
saloons. The government—God's min-
ister to execute wrath on evil doers—
instead of protecting the laborer in his
Sabbath, has the mails carried on Sun-
day, thus robbing its own employees of
their day of rest. In robbing God of
this day, we have thrown away one
great safeguard against vice and crime.

(2) The Liquor Traffic. God pro-
nounced a woe against those "who jus-
tify the wicked for a reward." Isa. v, 23.
Again, "Woe to him that buildeth a
town with blood, and establisheth a city
by iniquity." Hab. ii, 12. In the face
of all the suffering and crime caused by
this bloody traffic, our government goes
into partnership with, and justifies it
for a reward. Much of the crime of
the present day may be attributed to
the hard times; but the hard times
would rest far more lightly upon us, if
we did not spend \$900,000,000 a year
for liquor. But a still larger part of
the crime committed is due directly to
this evil which our government licenses
for a share of the blood-money. Our
government has declared, by its acts,
that money is of more importance than
human life; then we need not be sur-
prised when robbers carry this doctrine
to its natural conclusion, and do
directly, with cold lead, what the gov-
ernment does indirectly, by license laws.

(3) Bad Literature. Stories of vice
and crime, tales of lust—miscalled love
stories—Police Gazettes, etc., are sown
broadcast by greedy publishers. The
young find, on every hand, reading
which fill their minds with evil
thoughts and low ideals. It is of
little purpose to make laws, employ
police, and build prisons, while we keep
up this mighty agency for the produc-
tion of criminals.

(4) Divorce Laws. Before either
church or state existed, God established
the family, and has given us strict laws
for the protection of that sacred insti-
tution. Our laws have violated and
degraded this holy relation, and granted
divorces by the thousand, for causes
not recognized in God's Word. When
the home is overthrown, a means of

education is lost which neither church
nor school can supply.

God said "Them that honor me I
will honor." 1 Sam. ii, 30. If, as a
nation, we honor God's laws, those laws
will be a protection to us. "Be not
deceived; God is not mocked; for
whatsoever a man soweth, that shall
he also reap." Gal. vi, 7.

Other nations before us have proved
this. Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon,
despised the warnings of God's proph-
ets and the prophecies against them were
literally fulfilled. Egypt is to-day "the
basest of the kingdoms," Ezek. xxix,
15. Nineveh and Babylon are desolate.
Nah. iii, 7. Isa. xiii, 19-22. The Jews
foresook God's laws, and rejected his
Son, and the Romans took away both
their place and nation. In the eigh-
teenth century the French government
despised God's law, corrupted his
church, oppressed the poor, and tram-
pled virtue under foot. That govern-
ment fell, in the most bloody and ter-
rible revolution that the world has ever
seen.

"Will you slumber in your tent, Christian soldiers
While the foe is spreading woe through the
land?

Do you mark his rising power,
Growing bolder every hour?
Will he not our land devour,
While you stand?

Do you linger in your tent, Christian soldiers?
Satan smiling at your idle delay:
Thousands perish while you wait,
While you counsel and debate;
Heed ye not their awful fate,
As they stray?

"Let us rise in holy wrath, Christian soldiers,
Crush the evil with the heel of our might.
Counting cost, no longer wait;
Forward, manhood of the state,
For in God, our strength is great,
For 'tis right."

He is the author of eternal salvation
to all who obey him.—Heb. v, 9.

Christians are to be Christ's repre-
sentatives on earth, to carry on his
work.

As the first Adam, the head of the
race, was tempted and tested at the
beginning of his career, so must the
second Adam, the head of the redeemed
people of God, be tempted and tested
at the beginning of his work. The first
Adam failed, and changed paradise into
a desert; the second Adam gained the
victory, and changed a desert into para-
dise.—*Pelouet*.